

**Abstract Of The Invention**

Methods and systems are disclosed for expressing one or more associations between source language declarations and implementations in a language neutral fashion.

A determination is made as to whether a source language association rule related to a declaration is different from a default association rule for a target runtime. If so, an override association is expressed between the declaration and the implementation, and if not, a default association is expressed. Methods and systems are further disclosed for interpreting an association and a declaration in a runtime system, wherein a determination is made as to whether the association comprises an override association. If so, the association is interpreted according to an override association rule for the runtime system, and if not, the association is interpreted according to a default association rule.